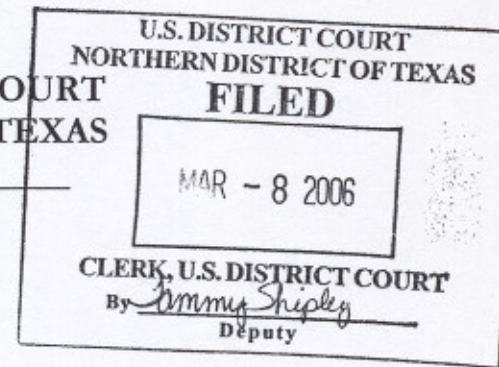


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 3-251



The Clerk's Office is directed to automatically refer at case opening certain types of matters to the resident magistrate judge for decisions as to non-dispositive matters and for findings and recommendations as to dispositive matters. In a division having more than one magistrate judge, the Clerk's Office will automatically refer each such matter to the magistrate judge to whom the case is preliminarily assigned.

The chart attached to this Order specifies each district judge's referral directive to the Clerk's Office. A district judge may modify the directive as it relates to that judge by notifying the Clerk's Office in writing. The Clerk's Office will modify the chart as necessary to reflect any such modification.

SO ORDERED this 8 day of March, 2006.

A. Joe Fish
A. JOE FISH, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Last Revised: 05/23/2006

CHART FOR AUTOMATIC REFERRAL OF CASES TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE AT CASE OPENING

DISTRICT JUDGE: CASE TYPE	Fish	Robinson	Fitzwater	Cummings	McBryde	Solis	Means	Lindsay	Lynn	Godbey	Kinkeade	Boyle	Sanders	Buchmeyer
IFP civil action (non-prisoner)	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Fee paid pro se civil action (non-prisoner/ non-Social Security) other than a bankruptcy matter	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer
Fee paid Social Security case	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer
Fee paid Prisoner Civil Rights or Prisoner Mandamus case	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Fee paid Habeas Corpus (§ 2254) case (except death penalty)	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Fee paid Habeas Corpus (§ 2241) case	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Habeas Corpus (§ 2255) case	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a petition)	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer

Last Revised: 05/23/2006

CHART FOR AUTOMATIC REFERRAL OF CASES TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE AT CASE OPENING

DISTRICT JUDGE: CASE TYPE	Fish	Robinson	Fitzwater	Cummings	McBryde	Solis	Means	Lindsay	Lynn	Godbey	Kinkeade	Boyle	Sanders	Buchmeyer
Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a motion for stay or TRO)	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer
Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a motion for appointment of counsel)	Refer ¹	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer ²	Do not refer	Refer ²	Refer ¹	Refer ²	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer ²	Refer ²
Motion for Certificate of Appealability	Refer	Refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Felony criminal cases (all initial proceedings up to arraignment)	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer	Refer
Misdemeanor criminal cases ³	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer	Do not refer

¹ Refer motion to appoint counsel to Magistrate Judge Stickney. Refer all other matters to the magistrate judge who was preliminarily assigned to the case.

² Refer motion to appoint counsel to Magistrate Judge Stickney. Send all other matters to the district judge.

³ Send all petty offenses to a magistrate judge.